



Department of State  
Ninewa Provincial Reconstruction Team  
Mosul, Iraq



FOR EMBASSY-BAGHDAD WEBSITE RELEASE  
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**Team Ninewa Assists with Medical Airlift**

**Mosul, Iraq** –August 9, 2009 -- PRT Ninewa, with the help of Forward Operating Base Marez military personnel, recently assisted with the medical evacuation of thirty nine (39) Iraqi citizens. The evacuees were those most severely injured by the August 7 terrorist bombing at a Shiite mosque in Northern Mosul. The mosque was primarily used by members of the Mosul's Turkmen minority.

The Medical evacuation was conducted by the Turkish consulate; the only other diplomatic mission in Ninewa province. Turkish officials arranged for medical aircraft and the evacuation while the PRT arranged for base and airport logistics as well as victim and crew support.

In comments to the press, PRT Team Leader, W. Patrick Murphy, expressed his condolences and condemned "senseless violence." Later, he noted, "It's heartbreaking to see these innocent victims, especially the young children."

The victims, transported to the airplanes in twenty ambulances, were evacuated to different hospitals in Turkey, where they will be medically treated before returning to Ninewa.



**PRT Ninewa Team Leader discusses details of the medical evacuation with the Turkish Consul to Mosul.**